Patent claims

1.-7. (cancelled)

8. (new) A system for structuring, storing and processing of
data in accordance with a generic object model, wherein the
object model has at least one first element which corresponds
to a type Object, wherein the type Object comprises the
following attributes:

    a unique identification of an object of the type Object
for absolute referencing of the object,

    a logical name for labeling the object, and

    at least one link to a second element, which corresponds
to a type Feature, wherein the type Feature comprises the
following attributes:

    a unique name in relation to the object, and

    the option of linkage to further components of the type
Object, to further components of the type Feature, and to data.

9. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the
type Object has as further attributes an identification of the
object type and an identification of the version of the object.

10. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein
elements linked by an element of type Feature form a logical
subset of all elements of an object.

11. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 9, wherein
elements linked by an element of type Feature form a logical
subset of all elements of an object.

12. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the
elements of the object are linked by references.

13. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 9, wherein the elements of the object are linked by references.

14. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the elements of the object are linked by references.

15. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the object model is described by an extensible markup language.

16. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the object model is described by an extensible markup language.

17. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 9, wherein the object model is described by an extensible markup language.

18. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the object model is described by an extensible markup language.

19. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the object model is described by an extensible markup language.

20. (new) The system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the system is part of an engineering system of an automation system.

21. (new) A method for structuring, storing and processing data in accordance with a generic object model, wherein the object model has at least one first element corresponding to the type Object, wherein the type Object comprises the following attributes:

a unique identification of an object of the type Object for absolute referencing of the object,

a logical name for labeling the object, and

at least one link to a second element, which corresponds

to a type Feature, the method comprising:

assigning a unique identification to an instance of the type Object for absolute referencing the instance;

assigning a logical name for labeling the instance; and

linking the instance to the second element, wherein the type Feature comprising the following attributes:

a unique name in relation to the relevant linked object referenced, and

the option of linkage to further components of the type Object, to further components of the type Feature, and to data.

22. (new) The method in accordance with claim 21, wherein the data are structured, stored, and processed for engineering an automation system.

23. (new) A method for structuring, storing and processing of data in accordance with a generic object model, wherein the object model has at least one first element which corresponds to the type Object, the method comprising:

providing a unique identification of an object of the type Object for absolute referencing of the object;

providing a logical name for labeling the object; and

linking the object to a second element, which corresponds to a type Feature, wherein the type Feature comprising:

a unique name in relation to the linked object, and

the option of linkage to further components of type Object, to further components of type Feature and to data.

24. (new) The method in accordance with claim 23, wherein the data are structured, stored, and processed for engineering an automation system.